

THE BATTALION

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Charges read today in Coleman murder trial

By KAY WALLACE

Charges will be formally read today by 85th District Court Judge John M. Barron Sr. to the five-man, seven-woman jury in the murder trial of defendant Walter Joe Coleman.

Coleman, 19, has pleaded "not guilty" to charges of murder in the January 1977 shooting death of former Texas A&M University instructor Lawrence T. Baugh.

The prosecution, represented by District Attorney Roland M. Searcy and Assistant District Attorney Larry Catlin, rested their case for the state Friday.

A ballistics expert testified Thursday that it was impossible to state conclusively that the pistol recovered near Baugh's body fired the bullet that killed him.

Charles Kornegay, one of Coleman's co-workers at the International Furniture

Company, said he testified Coleman had approached him on Jan. 7, 1977 and asked if Kornegay knew where he could buy a gun. Kornegay said he told Coleman he had one he wanted to sell. He said Coleman said, "A guy owes me some money and I don't know what he'll do."

Kornegay said on Jan. 12, 1977 at 7 p.m., Coleman called him at home and excitedly said, "I really did it...I really did it." Kornegay asked him what he did. Coleman said, "You'll read about it in the papers," and asked Kornegay to come pick him up at a convenience store on Beck Drive.

Kornegay said he drove to where Coleman said he would be but did not see him. He said he then heard Coleman call out to him. He described Coleman as being pale, shaking and nervous.

Kornegay said he drove Coleman to Coleman's girlfriend's house between 7:30 and 7:45 p.m. He said he told Coleman he did not ever want to hear from him again.

Kornegay's statement was presented as state's evidence. Defense attorneys Fred Davis and Kent Caperton asked for a recess to review the statement.

The jury was dismissed and Davis called College Station Detective Bobby Yeager back to the stand. Yeager testified he had informed Davis and Caperton during their investigation that the gun's ownership had been traced to a 1970 sale to a Houston Texas Ranger. He said he did not tell Davis or Caperton about Kornegay's statement.

Davis argued that College Station police had withheld evidence and that on those grounds, a mistrial should be declared.

Judge Barron denied the motion on grounds that "the purpose of this court is to ascertain truth in this matter."

The jury returned to the courtroom, and the state rested its case.

Coleman's former employer, former roommate and former girlfriend were called by Davis to testify. The three witnesses' testimony coincided with Cole-

man's statement of his whereabouts before and after Baugh's death.

Davis called Dr. Vincent DiMaio, a forensic pathologist from Dallas County, to testify.

DiMaio concluded that circumstances in Coleman's statement about how the gun was fired were consistent with the autopsy report and type of pistol.

DiMaio said it was possible for a person wielding a pistol like the one recovered to hit someone with the barrel from behind and have the gun fire as Coleman's statement alleged.

In cross-examination, DiMaio said that although consistent, the circumstances did not necessarily have to happen as Coleman's statement described for the bullet to have taken the path it did.

Coleman declined to take the stand as Davis and Caperton rested the case for the defense at 3:20 p.m.

Judge Barron ordered the jury to not discuss the case and adjourned court until 9 a.m. today.



Battalion photo by Chris Piccione

Every sci-fi tidbit from around the universe seemed to be on display at the Aggiecon Friday, keeping dealers and buyers busy during the convention.

Aggiecon lures fans of all persuasions

By CHRIS PICCIONE

The Trekkies were here, the Spider-Man fans were here, even people wearing buttons saying, "I'm a Friend of Darth Vader" were here. Aggiecon Nine brought these and other science fiction and fantasy fans together for a convention over the weekend, March 30-April 2.

The word "con" itself means a get together of fans to promote science fiction, said Stephen Poe, a member of a Texas A&M University science fiction organization called Crab Nebula.

The Texas A&M Science-Fiction-Fantasy committee, Cepheid Variable, hosts a con every year on campus that has become known as the Aggiecon.

Cons are held all over the world but the nationally known Aggiecon is one of the biggest in the Southwest, Poe said.

Dealers (shop owners, bookstore owners, or science fiction collectors) from all over the Southwest filled the Memorial Student Center ballroom Thursday through Sunday to sell their wares. Some of the more popular items for sale were old comic books, Spiderman and the Fly posters, and Farrah duck prints (pictures of ducks with Farrah Fawcett's face on them), buttons promoting Star Wars and science fiction fan magazines (fanzines).

"We deal to support our habits because we are collectors primarily," said Louise Seguin, science fic-

tion dealer from San Antonio. "We collector-dealers can't afford large cons. As it is we spend all our profit buying things while we're here."

Seguin paid \$27 to set up three tables of Star Wars paraphernalia. Other cons run by private individuals are more expensive. D-con in Dallas costs dealers \$30 per table. Seguin said she expected to make about \$300 at Aggiecon.

"Cons are fun, but they are an awful lot of work," Poe said.

This year Aggiecon included an art display and contest, science fiction writers seminars, daytime and nighttime films such as "2001: A Space Odyssey," "Slaughterhouse-Five," and "Wizards in addition to the dealers' room. Aggiecon was limited to selling 2,500 tickets and sold out both Friday and Saturday nights. Two types of tickets were sold. The four-day pass included admission to everything, and a single-day pass allowed admittance into all the activities scheduled for one specific day.

Although the dealers' room was crowded with members of the Aggie "fandom" including fantasy buffs dressed like knights and wizards, one comic book dealer, Joel Simon, said he didn't sell as much as expected because few children attended.

Joe Pumilia, guest author at Aggiecon said, "I've come to six or seven Aggiecons. As far as I can tell, this is the best con for my business."

Band selects drum majors for 1978-79

By MICHELLE SCUDDER

Three Texas Aggie Band juniors were selected March 28 as drum majors for 1978-79.

Larry Haag of New Braunfels is Head Drum Major, Mike McCartney of New Braunfels is Artillery Drum Major, and Connie Williford of Seagraves is Infantry Drum Major.

The new drum majors will direct the band for the first time during the Maroon and White game April 22, and their first outdoor performance will be the second time around during Final Review, May 6. During drum major tryouts March 27 and 28 each of the nine band members that tried out directed the band in the band hall, and led them through a drill on the band drill field.

"The drum major candidates were judged upon their physical and mechanical abilities, character, leadership, and their ability to give and take commands," Lynn Balinas, 1977-78 Artillery drum major said.

During the ceremony March 28 when the announcement was made, the incoming drum majors were presented with their batons by the 1977-78 drum majors and an item passed down to each new drum major. In addition to his baton Haag received a pair of red socks, McCartney a pair of spurs, and Williford a belt buckle.

Drum majors' responsibilities include directing the band on the field, and each week explaining the drills to the band and seeing that it is executed, with the supervision of the band director, said Lt. Col. Joe T. Haney, Aggie band director.

Each drum major also is responsible for charting one drill during the year, which is subject to approval by the band director.

Bugle Rank, the 12 seniors that comprise the lead rank in the band, for 1978-79 will include: Doug Coats, Robert Fields, Ron Greenwade, Dennis Hallaron, Mike Jechow, Will McCarrell, Joe Ramirez, Mark Rayfield, Lee Schockley, Paul Shannon, Greg Slack, and Steve Smith.

Student election ballot

STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

Bobby Tucker
Jeb Hensarling

V.P. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Mark Smith
Jim J. C. Colton
Mike Wilson

V.P. EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Joe Beall

V.P. FINANCE

James Law
Wayne Morrison
Paul Knudson

V.P. RULES AND RECS.

Rich Berthelsen
Austin Sterling

V.P. STUDENT SERVICES

Judy Rippel
Kevin "Potsy" Patterson

STUDENT SENATORS

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE (GRAD)

Candy DesRosters
SENIOR

Johnny Lane
Leroy Startz
Terri Gordon
Jerry Bissner
JUNIOR

Doug Nesmith
Sarah Lea Higbberg
La Harris
Candel Irigoyen
Carrell Moore
SOPHOMORE

Andy Holloway
Calvin Meyer
Ricky Fairchild
Robert (Big) Van Winkle
Kathleen Miller
Linda Wartner

COLL. BUSINESS (GRAD)

open

SENIOR

Owen Massey
Stephen Greenwade
Michael Edwards
JUNIOR

George Black
Larry Manuel
SOPHOMORE

Sam Hawes
Brad Smith
Becky Graham

David M. Baker
Scott Cariker
Cindy Harris

COLL. EDUCATION (GRAD)

Maevy Bellus
SENIOR

Patty Johnson
Charles Restivo
JUNIOR

open

SOPHOMORE

COLL. ARTS (AT-LARGE)

Irony Scardino
Charles Stovick
Roger Cooner

COLL. ENGINEERING (GRAD)

Steve Year
SENIOR

Mike McCutcheon
Rich Westlake
Steve Hageman
JUNIOR

open

SOPHOMORE

COLL. ENGINEERING (SOPHOMORE)

Bob Latham
Ted Etchison
Jerry Glassow
Tami Steen
AT-LARGE

Bruce (Fish) Hook
Jimmy Willett
Matt Henderson

COLL. GEOSCIENCE (AT-LARGE)

open

LIBERAL ARTS (GRAD)

open

SENIOR

Bob Poole
JUNIOR

Chuck Haynes
John T. Groce
SOPHOMORE

MOODY COLLEGE (AT-LARGE)

open

COLL. SCIENCE (AT-LARGE)

open

Darrel Westbrook
Edwin Grantham

VET AFFAIRS (AT-LARGE)

open

OPS SENIOR

open

COLL. ARCHITECTURE (GRAD)

open

COLL. EDUCATION (SOPHOMORE)

open

COLL. ENGINEERING (SOPHOMORE)

open

COLL. BUSINESS (SOPHOMORE)

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open

Cadets raise \$11,500 in March to the Brazos

By MICHELLE SCUDDER

One thousand nine hundred pair of combat boots marched west to the Brazos River Saturday as the Texas A&M University Corps of Cadets participated in their second annual March to the Brazos to raise money for the March of Dimes.

Their destination, a large open grassy field 6.3 miles west of campus seemed literally covered with cadets in their green fatigue pants, dotted only by various bright colored outfit T-shirts, as the cadets participated in competitive events beneath sunshining skies.

The Corps gathered \$11,500 in pledges which will be presented to the March of Dimes April 13.

The 13-mile round trip walk began at 7:30 a.m. at the

Corps Quadrangle and ended where FM 60 crosses the river at a large open field.

After reaching their destination at 9:30 a.m. the companies competed in three events: tug-of-war, three-legged race, and army-stretcher race. Lunch was provided by Duncan Dining Hall.

The corps will present first, second, and third place guidon streamers to companies that excelled in fund raising, competitive events, and number of members who collected pledges. The presentation will be made on Parents' Day, April 16.

Also on Parents' Day, the Brazos Valley March of Dimes will present the Battered Boot Award, a bronzed boot, to the company that raised the most money.

"Three or four outfits collected over \$500," said Andy Duffie, chairman of the March to the Brazos said. One freshman in Company P-2 gathered \$394 in pledges, Duffie said.

The national March of Dimes officer in New York sent a film crew to cover the event. The film will be to promote fund raising through walkathons and other sponsored events, said Ken Mallard, March of Dimes Chairman.

Duffie said the publicity Texas A&M and the Corps received was extensive. "We even made the front of the Houston Post," he said.

The exposure will help the Corps in recruiting freshmen and reaching former students, Duffie said.

"During the spring we don't have many Corps activities.

March to the Brazos is the major Corps event of the Spring," Duffie said.

The March to the Brazos to raise money for the March of Dimes is reminiscent of something that was done in the early days of the Corps.

"In the early days of the Corps the March to the Brazos was done every April 1 no matter what day it fell on to keep students from playing pranks on campus," Duffie said. They actually went out and spent the night at the River, he continued.

"The only difference between the 1914 march and now is that we are taking pledges. They used the march then as a preventive measure, but we are using it as a means of raising money and gaining positive exposure for the Corps of Cadets," Duffie said.



Saturday's March to the Brazos was nothing new for the Corps of Cadets, as this 1914 picture shows. Back then, the Corps would spend the night on the banks of the river so that no one would play April Fool's Day pranks on campus. The present-day march, however, has another purpose:



to raise money for the March of Dimes. Cadets raised \$11,500 this year from the 6.3-mile march.

Battalion photo (right) by Susan Webb. Left, courtesy Corps of Cadets.