

# Former India prime minister on trial, Gandhi pleads not guilty to contempt

United Press International

NEW DELHI, India — Former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi Tuesday pleaded innocent to a charge that she acted in contempt of a judicial commission inquiring into abuse of power during her emergency rule.

Gandhi appeared before the court of Chief Metropolitan Magistrate P. K. Jain who read the charge against her. Gandhi replied, "I am not guilty."

She read a 10-page statement accusing the commission of bias.

The Indian government, headed

by Prime Minister Morarji Desai, last year appointed former Chief Justice of India Jayantilal C. Shah as a single-member judicial commission to investigate alleged misuse of power by Gandhi and other officials during her 20-month emergency rule beginning in June 1975.

Gandhi appeared before the commission last December but refused to testify under oath, saying she was not legally and constitutionally bound to do so.

Shah then ordered her to be prosecuted for contempt of the commission.

If found guilty, Gandhi could be

sentenced to up to four years in prison.

Gandhi was mobbed by an esti-

mated 2,000 admirers shouting slogans hailing her as India's "only leader" when she arrived in court.



Battalion photo by David Keahey

The Association of Former Students hosted banquets Monday and Tuesday nights at the Ramada Inn to welcome the graduating class of

1978. From left to right, Valerie Tamble, Greg Rhodes and Susan Jenkins share a conversation at Tuesday night's banquet.

## Seniors now 'old Ags'

By LYNN BLANCO

This was the way for "75 thousand of us (former Texas A&M University students to say 'Hi' and 'Welcome' to the graduating seniors of 1978," said Jack M. Raines, vice president of the Association of Former Students.

The association hosted their biannual senior banquet Monday and Tuesday nights at the Ramada Inn.

Each year the association at Texas A&M gives the graduating seniors banquets in the fall and spring to honor and officially induct them into the association.

Harvey Cash, president of the association, presided over this first business meeting for the class of '78.

"No man can make you an Aggie," Cash said. "You make yourself an Aggie, and no one can make you a former student. All I can do is tell the world you are a member of the Former Student Association."

Buck Weirus, executive director of the association, reminded

graduating seniors of the importance of keeping their mailing addresses up to date. Weirus said the association is dedicated to the service of others, but it was important to know where they were.

Jack Raines, class of '60, said the benefits from joining the association make it the greatest alumni club anywhere. He said that generally there would be a club anywhere to help the students when they move and help them find jobs. He named two obligations a senior must remember: wear the Aggie ring with pride and help those who follow behind him.

At the banquet, many seniors said they felt the same way about graduation and leaving Texas A&M — glad to be leaving.

"It's nice to be getting the degree over with, but I'm looking forward to more schooling," said Lauren Rutherford, a biomed major from Austin.

Keith Spalding, an aerospace engineer from Mesquite said, "I feel that I'm getting ready to retire. I've been here for five years and I'm glad to be going."

Patty Piccolo, a microbiology major from Houston said, "The main thing I'm going to miss is the football season, the spirit, and my friends."

The banquet is paid for out of the association's annual fund by the people "who believe in the program," said Pat Morley, administrative assistant to the association.

This year alone the association gave Texas A&M 10 million dollars, Weirus said.

Seniors voted for class agents, but the ballots will not be counted until later this week. Class agents act as a liaison between the class and university in organizing the class reunion, said Morley. The class agent is represented on the council which is a governing body of members from the association.

Candidates included Troby Hoffacker and Dale Laine; Wilkes Kothmann and Geoff Sherman; Charlie Messina; Bill Rademacher and Richard Tocquigny; and Henry and Nancy Robin.

**ATM MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY BENEFIT DANCE MARATHON**  
APRIL 22ND  
12 NOON UNTIL 12 MIDNIGHT AT THE LAKEVIEW CLUB

Contests-Prizes  
Grand Prize  
Color TV & Stereo

Tickets \$2 per person  
Available at MSC - 1st Floor  
Sponsored by OPA/APO

**ALL PERSONS ARE URGED TO COME AND DANCE FOR FUN OR PRIZES**

Battalion Classified Call 845-2611

PIPES — CUSTOM BLENDED TOBACCO  
CIGARS — DOMESTIC & IMPORTED

Imported Cigarettes  
SNUFF AND SPITTOONS

3709 E. 29th St. Town & Country Center Bryan

**THE CALVERT HOTEL**  
Dinner Dance  
April 21, 22, 28 & 29  
Music and Songs by  
**Cecil Pearson**  
"Music for all ages"

BUFFET 6:30  
DANCE 8:00 - On

\$7.50 per person buffet and dance  
\$3.50 per person dance only  
Call 364-2641 for reservations

**California Dreamin'**  
CUSTOM SWIMWEAR CREATED ESPECIALLY FOR YOU!  
\$1750 — \$1950

Select your exact top & bottom size from 7 two piece styles in 25 different fabrics in hundreds of colors

Style 24

Style 27

LOCATED IN  
**TOP DRAWER PANT CO.**  
(Town & Country Shopping Center)  
Bryan — 846-0201

WEEKLY HOURS:  
WED. & FRI. 3-6 THURS. 3-8  
SAT. 10-5

Lucille's  
*Bridal Shoppe*

**TUXEDOS & TUX SHIRTS**  
from  
**Al's Formal Wear**

1103 Villa Maria 779-8405

AN EVENING TO ENJOY...

POET  
**NAOMI SHIHAB**

will present her works for the  
**4th Annual Poetry and Fiction Contest and Awards Ceremony**  
— will also sing and play guitar —  
**MSC Basement Coffeehouse**  
APRIL 19, 8:00 P.M.  
**FREE**  
arts committee

abc **INTERSTATE Theatres**  
846-6714 & 846-1151  
UNIVERSITY SQUARE SHOPPING CENTER

CINEMA  
WALTER MATTHAU  
GLENDA JACKSON  
a funny love story.  
7:45  
9:40  
OPEN  
7:15  
LAST 4 DAYS!  
"House Calls"  
A UNIVERSAL PICTURE  
TECHNICOLOR  
©1978 UNIVERSAL CITY STUDIOS, INC.

CINEMA  
GENE WILDER is  
The  
WORLD'S  
GREATEST LOVER  
7:30  
9:15  
LAST 9 DAYS!  
PG  
Color by DOLBY  
©1978 UNIVERSAL CITY STUDIOS, INC.

**GIG 'EM GRAMM**  
You are invited to meet, visit with and get to know  
**PHIL GRAMM**  
SIXTH DISTRICT CANDIDATE FOR CONGRESS  
FIESTA BALLROOM  
Corner of Palasota & Groesbeck  
MONDAY, APRIL 24  
Dance to Ted Hardan and The New Sounds  
BBQ DINNER 7:00 P.M.  
7:00 - 11:00

\$4.50 Per Person

**MANOR EAST 3 THEATRES**  
MANOR EAST MALL 823-8300

**SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER**  
A Paramount Picture  
7:30 9:55  
DOLBY STEREO

**HAROLD ROBBINS' The Betsy**  
7:15  
9:35

LAST DAY ANNIE HALL 7:35 9:45  
STARTS THURSDAY

**MEL BROOKS**  
in  
**HIGH ANXIETY**  
A Psycho-Comedy

MADLINE KAHN · CLORIS LEACHMAN · HARVEY KORMAN  
also starring DICK VAN PATTEN · RON CAREY · HOWARD MORRIS  
A MEL BROOKS FILM - Produced and Directed by MEL BROOKS  
Written by MEL BROOKS · RON CLARK · RUDY DELUCA · BARRY LEVINSON  
Music by JOHN MORRIS  
MUSIC FROM "HIGH ANXIETY" AVAILABLE ON ELEKTRA/ASYLUM RECORDS & TAPES

WEST SKYWAY TWIN EAST  
CHOIRBOYS PLUS CARNAL KNOWLEDGE PLUS  
TWO MINUTE WARNING CAMPUS JOCK PETERSON

STARTS TODAY  
Great rabbit movies you have known and loved:

**PAWS**  
**HARE WARS**

AND NOW!  
JOAN RIVERS'  
**rabbit TEST**  
The story of the world's first pregnant man... it's inconceivably funny.

Starring BILLY CRYSTAL · JOAN PRATHER · ALEX ROCCO · DORIS ROBERTS and IMOGENE COCA · RICHARD DEACON · NORMAN FELL · ALICE GHOSTLEY · GEORGE GOBEL · ROOSEVELT GRIER · PAUL LYNDE · PETER MARSHALL · RODDY McDOWALL · SHEREE NORTH · TOM POSTON · CHARLOTTE RAE and JIMMIE WALKER - Produced by EDGAR ROSENBERG  
Written by JOAN RIVERS and JAY REDACK - Directed by JOAN RIVERS

**THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW**  
a different set of jaws.

THE YEAR'S MOST POPULAR MIDNIGHT SHOW  
STARTS TONIGHT AT MIDNIGHT

The band gets its news from the Batt.