

# Local

## Casino offers blackjack, craps, inflated 'prices'

By TED TREAT  
Battalion Reporter

Talk about inflation — \$16 million for dinner for two at Fort Shiloh? This was typical of the casino money shelled out for prizes auctioned off at the Residence Hall Association's Casino Friday night.

For a \$4 admission, gamblers got \$3,000 in Casino money. Anyone with enough Casino dollars at the end of the night could bid on the 90 or so prizes auctioned off by the RHA.

The only thing more outrageous than the lofty bids was the cheating that went on throughout many of the blackjack tables. If a player knew the right dealer, or if the dealer didn't catch on, the player could switch cards with his neighbor and get "Blackjack" — an ace and a face card — without being skillful or lucky.

At several tables the only contest was who could cheat the most, as gamblers shook, rattled, shuffled and rolled their way through the casino. Other Casino games included craps, beat-the-dealer, chuck-a-luck, roulette and wheel-of-fortune.

Some players racked up \$300,000 or more in two hours at the blackjack table — but a bid for a pair of haircuts and blow-drys at That Place started at \$500,000.

When the gambling ended at midnight, thousands of gambling dollars were dropped from second floor balcony perches to the lounge below as people realized how little their casino money was worth.

Many other would-be gamblers pooled their money to have a better chance at getting the

prizes, which included a four-foot submarine sandwich that went for about \$63 million. The most expensive prize, a quarter-carat diamond marquee, went for \$123 million.

The auction lasted from 8:30 p.m. until 1:30 a.m. in the student lounge. For the last two hours, the crowds covered the floors, tables, chairs and balcony, cheering and clapping their hands to the high bids and stomping their feet to the honky-tonk music supplied by the Skillet Lickers band during one of the auction breaks. During another break, can-can girls bounced across the stage, drawing whoops from the crowd.

David Arber, co-chairman of the Casino committee, estimated Casino drew more than 3,000 people. This was more than enough to fill up the second floor of the MSC throughout the night, as each gambling table had a crowd surrounding it.

Getting to the table was trickier than the gambling as people tried desperately for a spot. Smoking gamblers were encouraged not to smoke, except in the main hallway, and drinkers swigged only soft drinks, except for the resourceful few who smuggled in their favorite brand.

Most cheating centered around dealers and gamblers at the blackjack tables, but one of the Casino banks was also hit.

Arbor said one person posing as a dealer conned one of the Casino banks out of \$50,000. The error was soon discovered, however, and the person was escorted out of Casino by one of the University policemen hired to guard the event.

Arbor said the event grossed about \$9,300 (in real money) and most people seemed to be having a good time, either at cheating the dealer or at cheating with the dealer.

## Drill teams both take seconds

By COLETTIE HUTCHINGS  
Battalion Reporter

In their final meet of the year, the Fish Drill Team and the Women's Drill Team each placed second Saturday in drill competition at San Antonio's Trinity University.

The competition for each team was divided into three phases consisting of:

- inspection of each team, judging based on uniforms, knowledge and composure.
- basic regulation drill, according to the manual published by the U.S. armed services.
- fancy exhibition drill, a freestyle series of maneuvers.

The Fish Drill Team competed against six schools: the University of Texas, University of Texas at Arlington, Prairie View A&M Univer-

sity, Texas A&I University, Texas Tech University and the Air Force Academy.

After an six-hour delay due to thunderstorms, the WDT competed against the U.S. Air Force Academy women's team, placing second in each of the meet's three phases.

The FDT placed first in the inspection phase and second in the basic and fancy drill phases of the meet.

WDT junior adviser Cathy Warfield said: "It was a little disheartening to take second place to the Air Force."

The women's team placed second to the Air Force team in last year's meet.

"It's unfortunate that the scores were so close and we took second again this year," Warfield said.

She said unlike Texas A&M, the Air Force Women's Drill Team practices for meets during class time while receiving physical education course credit.

Warfield said the WDT practices for meets two days a week and the weekend before a competition.

FDT senior adviser David Garcia agreed that not receiving credit for FDT practice was a disadvantage.

"That is one of the changes we want to make in the future," Garcia said.

Garcia said the Aggie freshmen practice an hour and a half five days a week and on weekends.

The WDT and FDT are the current Texas state champions.

## Blood drive short but still 'success'

By DAVID CALVERT  
Battalion Reporter

Even though the Aggie Blood Drive fell short of its 2,000-pint goal, the drive's chairman said he considers it a success.

Doug Snow, Aggie Blood Drive chairman, said he still considers last week's 1,745 donated pints a worthwhile effort.

"We very rarely make it to our goal in the spring," he said. "I don't know why this is, unless all the students are anxious for school to get out."

Blood donated at the drive goes to the Wadley Central Blood Bank

in Dallas.

"The people at Wadley told me they don't have as good a turnout at the other campuses they visit in the spring, either," Snow said.

He said the Wadley mobile blood unit in front of Sbis Dining Hall broke down Tuesday morning, which meant several students had to be turned away. Snow also said the drive had to be closed early Tuesday afternoon because of a conflict with Aggie Muster.

Snow said the blood collected will be used for research and by patients.

"The blood can be stored for 35

days for use by hospital patients," he said. "Wadley also does a lot of work with interferon and cancer, so they use some of the blood for research."

Snow said prizes for the organization that donated the most blood had not been determined. He said the winners will be announced in The Battalion later this week.

## Concert taping may give KAMU-TV bigger market

By PHYLLIS HENDERSON  
Battalion Staff

KAMU-TV is taping a contemporary Christian concert tonight as the first step of a project it hopes will bring national exposure to the station.

The station will tape Dallas Holm and Praise and distribute the program via satellite to all public television stations that want it.

"It's not a live broadcast," Roger Lewis, producer of the program, said.

"Taping the concert is just the first step of many," he said. The station will tape the concert, edit it to one hour and then offer it to other public television stations across the nation. The entire process will cost between \$15,000 and \$17,000.

The station will air the program in August as a part of their August festival. The festival features the station's best programming, and it is then that the station offers membership subscriptions.

Lewis said the station expects the program to give it "a great deal of exposure nationally, which is quite important to the station."

This is the first time the station has gone through the entire process of producing and distributing a one-hour program, Lewis said. It did, however, produce and distribute a series of six half-hour programs in December titled "Plant Kingdom."

The station decided to tape the concert because of the gospel group's tremendous popularity.


"Since 1978, they have been the number one or two gospel group in the United States," Lewis said. "They are extremely popular among those who like that type of music."

Lewis said this popularity should help the station in its distribution of the program.

"I would be surprised if every public television station in the South didn't air it," he said. "Generally, gospel music is a little more popular in the South."

Dallas Holm and Praise, based in Texas, has toured extensively worldwide. The group has received many awards in recent years, including best contemporary Christian group in 1978 and best contemporary album in 1979 from the Gospel Music Association.

The concert will be at 7:30 in Rudder Auditorium. Tickets are \$3 and are on sale at Rudder Box Office and Shadow Wings Bookstore in Bryan. The concert is sponsored by Aldersgate Concerts and the Methodist Student Movement.



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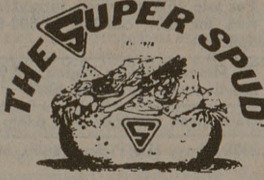
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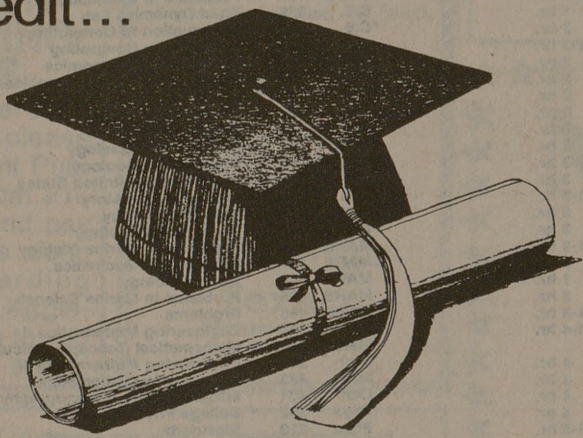
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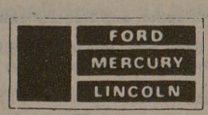
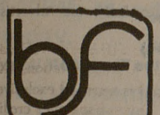
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