

'Texas mystique' originated with six-shooter

Television host speaks to Houston Aggie Moms

By JANE G. BRUST
Battalion Staff

HOUSTON — Aggies and Aggie moms heard tales of cowboys and Indians Tuesday. But rather than being seated around a blazing campfire out on the range, they sat in a plush banquet room complete with crystal chandeliers and white tablecloths.

Ray Miller, the dry-witted host/narrator of "The Eyes of Texas" television program, spoke at the annual Houston A&M Mothers' Club mother-student luncheon at the River Oaks Country Club.

Just as his weekly program focuses on people and places in Texas, Miller's talk focused on the Texas Rangers who rode the state's frontiers in the early 1800s. He offered his explanation of the image of cowboys on horseback shooting Indians — what he calls Texas mystique.

The Texas mystique started, he said, with the Comanche Indians and the Texas Rangers.

The biggest problem for the Spanish settlers in Texas, Miller said, was the Comanches who had migrated from the north and made a practice of stealing horses and shooting arrows at settlers. The Spanish settlers welcomed Anglo-American settlers so the Comanches would have someone else to pick on, he said.

The Comanches stole horses and learned to handle them like no one had done before or since," he said.

The Texas Rangers formed to fight the Indians but the Comanches could fire six arrows for every one shot the Rangers could fire, Miller said.

However, he said, when Sam Colt created the Colt revolver in 1839, the tables turned and the Texas mystique began.

"The concept of the Texas Ranger with two six-shooters on horseback, chasing Comanches, was an image sent world-wide," Miller said.



Staff photo by Jane G. Brust

Page Brunkhorst, a senior management major from Houston, and his mother, Barbara Brunkhorst, were among the 380

Texas A&M students and mothers who ate lunch Tuesday at the River Oaks Country Club in Houston.



Staff photo by Jane G. Brust
"Eyes of Texas" host/narrator Ray Miller chats with Houston A&M Mothers' Club President Shirley Neal.

Post Oak Mall announces nine new stores

The nine newest stores for Post Oak Mall in College Station have been announced by Eugene H. Schimpf, representative of CBL & Associates, Inc., and project manager for the shopping center complex. The mall is scheduled to open Wednesday, Feb. 19.

The stores include Coach House Cards & Gifts, Camelot Music, the Game Peddler, M.J. Lighting, The Keyboard Center, Wicks 'N' Sticks, Cutlery World, Flowers Faire and Buckles & Blades, Inc.

Coach House Cards & Gifts will carry a full department of well-known Hallmark products plus a large selection of gifts.

With over 120 stores nationwide, Came-

lot Music will offer a complete selection of stereo albums, sheet music and tape accessories.

The Game Peddler will specialize in a full line of adult-oriented games and accessories.

M.J. Lighting will feature such items as grandfather clocks, wall clocks and other accessories for the home.

The Keyboard Center, a piano, organ and guitar specialty store, will feature Baldwin pianos and organs, Uairi, Alvarez and Yamaha guitars.

Wicks 'N' Sticks will feature various candles for all occasions.

The store also will include related items

to compliment a home, office or church. Cutlery World will offer cutlery, gifts, wooden items, hunting knives and personal care products.

Flowers Faire will feature plants, horticultural supplies, potted plants and cut flowers. The store also will carry basic supplies, pots, baskets and other related gift items.

Buckles and Blades will offer leather goods including products by Tony Lama and other Texas-made items. Famous brand-name knives and a vast selection of buckles also will be available.

One of the major attractions of the new mall will be "The Gourmet Court," an area

that will contain more than 15 eating establishments.

The Gourmet Court will have a central seating area that will accommodate more than 300 individuals.

Firms that will be located in The Gourmet Court are: Chick-Fil-A, Salad Bar-tique, Potatoes Etc., Sesame Hut, Pepe's, Funnell Bakery, Swensen's Ice Cream, Polar Bar Ice Cream and Cannon Weaver, a fish and chips operation.

Previously announced food stores that also will be in the Gourmet Court include The Great Hot Dog Experience, Peanut Shack, Giovanni's, Orange Julius and Corn Dog 7.

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