

A&M first in ring sales, second in dance attendees

by Kelley Smith
Battalion Staff
Texas A&M's senior class president says Texas A&M may have the largest ring dance, but Virginia Polytechnic Institute claims that the Aggie dance is only the second largest in the nation.
Although it may come in second in dance attendance, Balfour (the company that supplies senior rings) says Texas A&M has the largest number of ring sales in the nation.
Wayland Hundley, VPI's Class of '84 president, claims Virginia Poly-Tech has the largest ring dance.
Joe Meyer, Texas A&M Class of '83 president, said this year, we would have the largest ring dance," he said.

To determine who had the largest ring dance, the junior class officers at Virginia Polytech talked with over 20 major universities in the nation. They based their claim not only on the amount of people who attend but also on the money spent, Hundley said.
Both Meyer and Hundley said they expect about 1,500 couples to attend their ring dances.
The Texas A&M dance will be April 30. An orchestra will play in the second floor Memorial Student Center ballroom, and the Debonaires will play in the Rudder Tower exhibit hall.
There will be a bash Friday night at the Hall of Fame and a banquet at the Aggie Inn Saturday before the dance.

The total cost of the weekend will come to about \$12,000. The funds were raised through various sales and dances by the Class of '83, which sponsors the dance.
Virginia Polytech is spending \$30,000 on the weekend activities. "This year, we're going all out," Hundley said. "We're trying to make it the ultimate in a formal event."
Meyer said some of the money for VPI's dance comes from class dues students must pay each semester.
"VPI's dance is a statewide event," Meyer said. "They invite legislators and well-known Virginians to the dance, and we've decided to do that also."
According to Balfour, Texas A&M sells more senior class rings than any other university.

Willard Clark, an Aggie and regional manager for Balfour, said no other school comes close to matching the number of rings ordered by Texas A&M.
"The percentage of sales for students graduating is without question probably the best in the United States," he said.
Clark also said that in recent years, very few women's rings are sold at other schools. This is not true at Texas A&M. The percentage of women's rings sold here also is the highest in the nation.
The only other universities that might come close would be the military institutions, Clark said.
The ring is more meaningful when certain requirements must be met before it can be bought, he said.

80 indicted for drugs after Texarkana raids

United Press International
TEXARKANA, Ark. — Law enforcement officials in Arkansas and Texas worked through the night to round up more than 80 people indicted on drug charges, authorities said.
A Bowie County grand jury Wednesday issued 38 sealed indictments charging 32 people with the sale of controlled substances. More than 80 felony warrants were issued against some 50 people in Arkansas.
Approximately 30 people had been arrested in Arkansas since a series of raids began at 5 p.m. Wednesday, authorities said. At least 21 others had been arrested in Texas, including a professional football player and a former athlete.
Trooper Bob Roten of the Arkansas State Police said more than 80 arrests were expected in the raids which continued throughout the night.
"We're not going to be able to

get everyone," Roten said. "Some of the people will be alerted and skip town. We'll serve the warrants whenever we can after this. It may take months to bring everybody in."
Clarence Harmon, a running back for the Washington Redskins, and Ike Forte, a former running back for the New England Patriots, were arrested about 9 p.m. Wednesday when Texas police raided an apartment in Texarkana, Texas.
Authorities said neither athlete was named in the drug indictments but just happened to be present when police raided the Woodbridge Apartments where they and three others allegedly were using cocaine.
Both were charged with possession of cocaine and were jailed in lieu of \$20,000 bonds. Forte is a Texarkana, Texas native and played college football at Arkansas.
Arkansas State Police said the

raid culminated a 12-month investigation by about 20 of its undercover narcotics officers who worked the Texarkana area making drug buys.
"The majority of the charges in Arkansas were for sale of controlled substances," Roten said. "I haven't looked at all the warrants, but the ones I've seen were for selling cocaine or marijuana or codeine or just about every type of drug under the sun."
Miller County Sheriff Ken Sinward, who initiated the investigation, said the raid had been scheduled for Friday night but was moved up to Wednesday because word of the impending roundup had leaked out.
Law enforcement officials from the Arkansas State Police, Miller County Sheriff's Department, the Texarkana, Ark., police, the Texarkana, Texas, police and the Bowie County Sheriff's Department took part in the raid.

Food to stay in Mexico

United Press International
JUAREZ, Mexico — Mexican customs officials confiscated tons of groceries in a crackdown on Americans violating regulations forbidding exportation of basic food items from the financially troubled country.
The most strict enforcement of the regulations to date had automobiles backed up for blocks Wednesday at the bridges leading into El Paso. Shoppers from El Paso who had purchased their weekly grocery supplies in the border city were told they could not take their food out of Mexico and were relieved of their packages.
With the recent devaluations of the peso, American shoppers have found bargains in Mexican supermarkets, with quality T-bone steaks selling for less than \$1 a pound, whole wheat bread for 35 cents a loaf and other basic items at such reduced prices that Mexican consumers have complained they are being cheated by Americans who leave grocery store shelves bare.

Adolfo Paredes, commandant of the Mexican customs in Juarez, said his agents have been passing out fliers for the past several months, warning tourists not to take groceries out of the country, but the notices have generally been ignored as shoppers exchange dollars at the rate of 150 pesos to \$1.
Paredes said an estimated 10 tons of groceries were confiscated Wednesday when the new enforcement policy became effective. He said the government intends to continue the campaign in order to prevent shortage of basic food items in Juarez.
He said Javier Garduno Perez, director general of customs in Mexico City, said the crackdown will be in effect in all border cities from Tijuana to Matamoros.
Souvenirs, clothing and arts and crafts items are not included on the government's list of prohibited articles.
The prohibited food items in-

clude such things as meats, fresh fruit and vegetables, dairy products and staples.
Customs officials in border cities such as Brownsville, McAl-

len, Laredo, Del Rio, and Presidio in Texas; Nogales and Yuma, Ariz.; and Calexico and San Diego, Calif., are enforcing the regulations.

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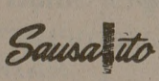
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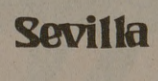
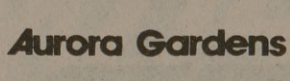
- January — Nacho cookoff with margaritas
- February — Racquetball Tournament
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- March — Drawing for hot air balloon ride
Outdoor concert

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- April — Superstars competition
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- May — Kegs by the pool
- June — 2nd annual watermelon extravaganza
- July — Games picnic
- August — End of the summer celebration
- September — Softball Tournament
- October — Pregame warmup parties
- November — Bonfire bash
- December — Christmas parties & contests



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