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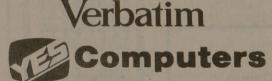
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A&M traditions never die

By LESLIE HEFFNER

Traditions and Texas A&M are cliches that never end. Aggies have even given tradition their own meaning — anything that's done more than once.

The oldest tradition known to Texas A&M is "once an Aggie always an Aggie." The first Texas A&M class to graduate is said to have

Puryear Hall, one of the oldest dormitories, also can be thought of as the originator of midnight yell

Harry E. Allen, Class of '32, re-called his memories of the first practice in a letter to the University ar-chives. It was written a few days before the 1932 Texas game:

"Some of us were gathered in Pur-year Hall in the room of Peanut Owens. He was a junior yell leader. He had on a pair of red pajamas and a red baseball cap. I believe it was I who told him, 'Peanut, we ought to have a snake-dance at Tatoo and you lead it.' Someone said to go alert the band in Foster and others to go to all band in Foster and others to go to all the dorms close by and have all the freshman turn out.

'We then got in touch with Horsefly Berryhill and Two Gun Horman from Sherman, both senior yell leaders, and asked about having all the fellows finally congregate at the 'Y'

for a midnight yell practice. They told us they could not personally au-thorize this but if we did congregate, they would happen to be there at the

As per usual, we had lots of railroad flares and torpedoes on hand. We took some over to the 'Y' and stuck them in the flower tubs that were there and that was the start of our midnight yell practice.'

Howdy, one of the more famous Aggie traditions, was unheard of in 1928. Students would walk to their classes without talking to each other. No one really knows when the tradition originated.

The Traditions Council, hoping to keep Aggies friendly, will form a Howdy Squad next fall.

"The squad will consist of a group of Aggies walking around campus"

saying 'howdy' to everyone they see says Karen Bloch, traditions council treasurer 1983-84.

Howdy is not the only friendly

sign Aggies display.

Twenty yards to go, ten ... touch down. Every time the Aggie football team scores, Aggie men give their date a kiss. Like countless other traditions, this one probably will sur-

Although these traditions and many others — such as the Twelfth Man, Silver Taps, Muster and bonfire — have existed for years, some traditions have begun only recently.

One of these is a three-day end. Aggies seem to think that fessors will excuse them from F classes because they stayed up to socializing at Northgate. Some gies go to the Chicken or Dud Draw. Others just enjoy fratem in the front of the Northgale and restaurants. Whateveritma Thursday night at Northgate ha come one of the most popular

traditions. 'Are you going to graduate time?" is a question many Aggie each other. When the answeri a look of amazement usually ap on the questioner's face only be of another new tradition which "You can either graduate with class or on time.

A new tradition women oug like is a switch for the kickoff. tions council plays a big part in moting the tradition. It selects game a year women can ask for dates.

With all the kisses, the how and the all-nighters, Aggies ten get hungry. Archie's Taco Bell Hamburgers, and Dominos Pizz the spot about 2 a.m. when then chies set in.

Aggies not only have old and traditions, but they have what o might call "pre-traditions." A go example of this is the 1984 edit pre-registration. Everything wen planned, but it will have to har

Uncommon traditions not unusual to cadets

By JULIE ENNIS Reporter

During the Texas A&M football season, Duncan Dining Hall can sound like a barnyard yell practice. The junior cadets yell suey before

the Arkansas and Texas A&M game. The sophomore cadets moo be-

fore the University of Texas and Texas A&M game.

The senior cadets wager bets that their outfits will get a higher grade

than another. And no one is eating pineapple.

Greg Lengyel, Corps wing commander, says canned pineapple used to have an orange tint to it, hence, no cadet can eat the tinted fruit in Duncan Dining Hall until the t.u. (that's the University of Texas for the uninitiated) football team is

These lesser known football traditions are common to the corps of ca-

Pat Hamilton, a senior physical education major from Lubbock, says traditions help camaraderie.

To symbolize an Aggie's desire to "spur the ponies," freshmen cadets will string flattened bottle caps on coat hangers and attach them to their shoes with boot bands a week before the Southern Methodist University and Texas A&M game, he

"Traditions vary from outfit to outfit," he said. "Some outfits re-

quire the freshmen to use only Star bottle caps for their spurs, others require the same numb

caps as their graduation year." Hamilton says the juniors in squadron will often wake the fr men to shine the statue of Sull R before a home game.

Some traditions associated w football games are more sentim to senior corps members, Hamil

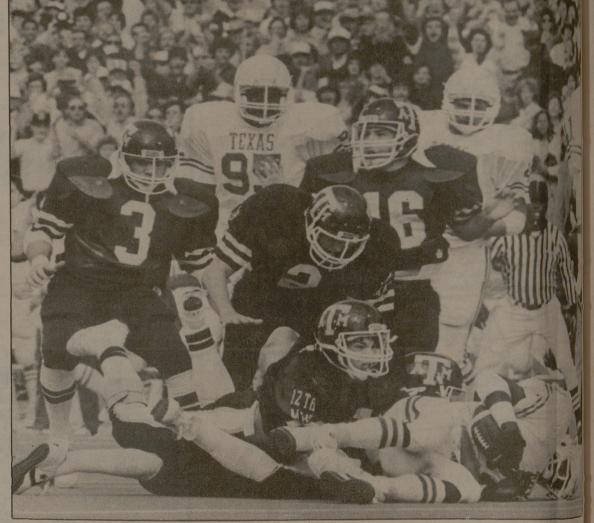
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At the UT game, the seniors the juniors one of their spurs wear, he says.

"This shows that they (the senio going to graduate soon and the leadership responsibilities to juniors," he said.



The Twelfth Man Kick-off Team was formed by Texas A&M Head Football Coach

Jackie Sherrill last year to utilize the original twelfth man tradition at A&M.

Standing for football games signifies Aggies' support

By PAM BARNES

Reporter

No one really knows when the tradition of standing during Texas A&M football games actually began, but many "old Ags" attribute it to the day when a young cadet was called down from the stands to play for the badly injured Aggie team.

Because of that day in 1922 when E. King Gill stood ready to play, if needed, the Corp of Cadets, and the entire student body, now stand from kick off until the end of the game. They represent that Twelfth Man, just like E. King Gill, ready to play for their team.

Gill wasn't the only Aggie to suit up for a team in need and no one is sure exactly when the cadets started

standing at games but it's a tradition, and Gill is remembered as the origi-

nal Twelfth Man.

The story goes like this ...
... It was a cold day in Dallas when
the Aggies were playing the Praying Colonels from Centre College in the Dixie Classic, the forerunner to today's Cotton Bowl. Three players from the opposing team were named All-Americans and the Aggies were expected to lose badly. Coach Dana X. Bible was faced with an empty bench because of injuries.

E. King Gill, a basketball player and former football player, was in the press box spotting plays for a Waco sportswriter. Gill was called down to the field and shielded by blankets as he donned one of the injured player's uniform.

Gill never had to enter the game,

the Aggie team the confidence fight. They won 22 to 14. E. King Gill told the Houst Press in 1956: "I wish I could say

ran for the winning touchdown, I didn't. I simply got ready waited — just in case I was needed E. King Gill died in Decem 1976 of a heart attack. He was

years-old. Today a monument of Gill in 1922 football uniform stands at K Field, representing the readines all Aggies to stand up for their to The monument was donated by

Class of '80. Its inscription briefly tells story of the twelfth man. Most gies know the story by heart, but can bet any one of them will take time to tell it to a newcomer.