

'Sarge' not quite your typical Ag

Chapman A&M's fan for 28 years

By AMY BOWMAN
Reporter

From the looks of him, George B. Chapman is just another old man. He looks like he could be anybody's grandfather, until you look at him closely.

He wears a white shirt with a maroon bow tie, maroon pants with a western belt that has "SARGE" stamped on the back, A&M track shoes with A&M shoestrings. His hair is white as snow with a few touches of gray around the sideburns that give him a distinguished air. Tiny smile lines and his sparkling eyes reveal that he has truly enjoyed life.

George B. Chapman is known as Sarge to many students and coaches at A&M.

Sarge has been enshrined in the hearts of many Aggie athletes because of his consistent devotion to Texas A&M athletics.

For the past 29 years, Sarge has been to every athletic practice and game he could attend, unless he was sick or had a business appointment.

"I'm just a gung-ho Aggie," Sarge said. "Aggies have a great, oh man, they have the greatest athletic program in the world."

Sarge makes a special point of going to all the practices and home games of the women's softball team. He has particular fondness for the players on the team and knows them all by name.

"Girls have a special place in my heart and my life," Sarge said. "Whenever I miss a practice, the girls say, 'Where the hell have you been, Sarge?'"

"I congratulate the softball girls by giving them a hug every time they come up to the softball field when they win. You talk about friends. Boy I tell you, I'd do anything in the world for those girls. I'd fight for 'em, I'd steal for 'em, I'd do anything, I guess, because they're just wonderful."

Sarge said he likes to sit around the barbershop and gossip.

"I try to get the guys to come watch the gals play softball and promote the team," he said. "I've been trying for seven years to help give the team the recognition they deserve."

Sarge speaks as if every player on the team is his own daughter. He could dress up to be the perfect Santa Claus, bounding children on his knee and telling them tall tales.

Every year, Sarge takes a senior member of the softball team as his date to the annual softball banquet.

Sarge came to A&M from Snyder in the 1920's, but stayed for only two years. He then went to Sul Ross State University for a year, and was later commissioned to serve in World War II.

Sarge got his nickname while serving in the Air Force. An old friend, former A&M baseball Head Coach Tom Chandler, called him Sarge when he met him at a baseball game and the name has stuck ever since.

"I know at least 950 people personally," Sarge said. "They're friends of mine on the campus at A&M and if you'd ask nine out of 10 of 'em, I doubt one out of 10 would know what my real name is."

Sarge is a people-person. He is full of stories and could sit and entertain any age audience for hours on end. His mind is like a mousetrap and he has an ear for facts. Sometimes, he'll just sit with a glimmer in his eye as he thinks about his past.

"My mother told me two things when I was a little boy, about three years old," he said. "She said, 'Son, remember two things going through life. Number one, Jesus loves you. And two, friends are greater than riches.' That's one of the main reasons why I take part in athletics."

In his bedroom at home, Sarge has what he calls his "sports gallery" covering one wall. Pictures of every Southwest Conference championship team, Aggie team pictures and eight-by-10 color action shots line his wall. "A&M is proud to honor loyalty to athletes," are the words on a certificate signed by the assistant athletic director. Another plaque is for the 12th Man Hall of Fame. Nametags, ticket stubs and other Aggie paraphernalia are stuck behind the pictures.

Pictures of his grandchildren line the other walls, along with sets of old coins, family pictures and promotion certificates from the Air Force.

Sarge lives off social security and retirement pay, which is how he pays for admission to the athletic events. He is a widower and promises to never reveal his age to anyone.

The chance is pretty good that on any afternoon at A&M Field, Sarge will be out rooting his Fightin' Texas Aggie softball team and showing his pride for Texas A&M.

Cantilena
Chamber Soloists
Monday April 22
8:00 pm
Rudder Theater
Presented by
MUSICIANS
Concert Series

Study in Italy...
Fall Semester '85

MEETING TODAY
Architecture Bldg. Room 124, April 18, 5:00 pm
ITALART STUDY CENTER-LA POGGERINA
Meeting Sponsor: AIAS Scholarship Committee

© 1985 Beer Brewed by Miller Brewing Company, Milwaukee, WI

SWENSEN'S
GREAT ICE CREAM AND FOOD
TAXPAYER'S \$PECIAL

SWENSEN'S
"MORE THAN YOU CAN EAT"
FOR ONLY \$3⁹⁹ (reg. \$6.15 value)

GET A 1/3 LB. BURGER PLATE WITH THICK CUT WEDGE FRIES, A SUPER SUNDIE WITH YOUR CHOICE OF TOPPING AND A TALL FROSTED MUG OF COKE.* ALL FOR ONLY \$3* PLUS TAX. CHEESE AND/OR BACON EXTRA.

*Coke is a registered trademark. Not good with any other offer or discount. Limit 5 per coupon. Good thru April 30, 1985.

Culpepper Plaza College Station, Texas

OVER 100 YEARS AGO FREDERIC MILLER MADE A CLEAR COMMITMENT.



To Quality. To Purity.
To America.
And That Tradition
Continues...

When Frederic Miller came to America from Germany, he wasn't much different from any other newcomer.

Like millions of others, he saw in America a golden opportunity—to bring his brewing skills to their peak, using the finest resources in the world.



Frederic Miller made the most of what America had to offer. He made the best beer he knew how to make, using the finest grains and hops; the purest water.

And to show America the quality and purity of his beer, he insisted on putting it in clear bottles.

A lot has changed since Frederic Miller's day. But a lot hasn't.

Miller still uses the finest ingredients and brewing skills. It contains no additives or preservatives.

And Miller still comes in the same clear bottles. For the same clear reasons.



MADE THE AMERICAN WAY.